

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A trocar for performing a procedure on a patient, said trocar comprising:
 - a. a hollow cannula having a distal end and a proximal end;
 - b. a housing having a distal end attached to said proximal end of said cannula and a proximal end having a wall attached thereto, said wall having an aperture therethrough;
 - c. a seal assembly disposed within said housing comprising a first substantially rigid ring, a second substantially rigid ring, and a plurality of layered elastomeric members compressed therebetween, said first ring having a plurality of distally extending protrusions extending from a distal surface thereof, and said second ring having a plurality of proximally extending protrusions extending from a proximal surface thereof.
2. The trocar according to claim 1 wherein said plurality of layered elastomeric members form a conical shape.
3. The trocar according to claim 1 wherein said elastomeric members comprise a proximal flange portion, and an inwardly extending portion extending distally therefrom, wherein said proximal flange portions are disposed between and are abutting against said rings.
4. The trocar according to claim 4 wherein said seal assembly has an outer perimeter which is attached to a flotation means.
5. The trocar according to claim 1 wherein said seal assembly includes a plurality of protectors disposed proximal to said elastomeric seal.

6. The trocar according to claim 1 wherein said layered elastomeric members are disposed such that there is a substantially centrally located aperture in said seal assembly.
7. The trocar according to claim 1 wherein said plurality of elastomeric layers are woven together.
8. The trocar according to claim 1 wherein said plurality of elastomeric layers have a non-planer shape prior to be assembled together.
9. A trocar for performing a procedure on a patient, said trocar comprising:
 - a. a hollow cannula having a distal end and a proximal end;
 - b. a housing having a distal end attached to said proximal end of said cannula and a proximal end having a wall attached thereto, said wall having an aperture therethrough;
 - c. a seal assembly disposed within said housing comprising a first substantially rigid ring, a second substantially rigid ring, and a plurality of layered elastomeric members compressed therebetween, said first ring having a plurality of distally extending protrusions extending from a distal surface thereof.
10. The trocar according to claim 10 wherein said plurality of layered elastomeric members form a conical shape.
11. The trocar according to claim 10 wherein said elastomeric members comprise a proximal flange portion, and an inwardly extending portion extending distally therefrom, wherein said proximal flange portions are disposed between and are abutting against said rings.

12. The trocar according to claim 11 wherein said seal assembly has an outer perimeter which is attached to a flotation means.
13. The trocar according to claim 10 wherein said seal assembly includes a plurality of protectors disposed proximal to said elastomeric seal.
14. The trocar according to claim 10 wherein said layered elastomeric members are disposed such that there is a substantially centrally located aperture in said seal assembly.
15. The trocar according to claim 10 wherein said plurality of elastomeric layers are woven together.
16. The trocar according to claim 10 wherein said plurality of elastomeric layers have a non-planer shape prior to be assembled together.
17. A trocar for performing a procedure on a patient, said trocar comprising:
 - a. a hollow cannula having a distal end and a proximal end;
 - b. a housing having a distal end attached to said proximal end of said cannula and a proximal end having a wall attached thereto, said wall having an aperture therethrough;
 - c. a seal assembly disposed within said housing comprising a first substantially rigid ring, a second substantially rigid ring, and a plurality of layered elastomeric members compressed therebetween, said second ring having a plurality of proximally extending protrusions extending from a proximal surface thereof.
18. The trocar according to claim 17 wherein said plurality of layered elastomeric members form a conical shape.

19. The trocar according to claim 17 wherein said elastomeric members comprise a proximal flange portion, and an inwardly extending portion extending distally therefrom, wherein said proximal flange portions are disposed between and are abutting against said rings.
20. The trocar according to claim 19 wherein said seal assembly has an outer perimeter which is attached to a flotation means.
21. The trocar according to claim 17 wherein said seal assembly includes a plurality of protectors disposed proximal to said elastomeric seal.
22. The trocar according to claim 17 wherein said layered elastomeric members are disposed such that there is a substantially centrally located aperture in said seal assembly.
23. The trocar according to claim 17 wherein said plurality of elastomeric layers are woven together.
24. The trocar according to claim 17 wherein said plurality of elastomeric layers have a non-planer shape prior to be assembled together.